

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 43 are in the application. Claims 1 – 3 and 6 – 43 are pending.

Claims 4 and 5 are canceled.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 7 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 7 and 13 have been amended to further enhance clarity. Thus, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15 and 20 -22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lin, et al (U.S. Pat. No. 6342670) in view of Roberts (U.S. Pat. No. 6335548).

Without acquiescing to the correctness of the rejection and for the purpose of obtaining claims to allowable subject matter, certain rejected claims have been amended and presented to include features of allowable claims.

Claim 1 now contains features of allowable claim 4, and claims 2, 3 and 7-20 which depend directly or indirectly on claim 1 are submitted to be allowable.

Independent claim 27 combines features of claim 1 and allowable claim 5. Claim 6 depends on claim 27, and claims 28-43 depend on claim 27. Thus, claims 6 and 27-43 are allowable.

Claim 21 has been amended to include features of allowable claim 4. Thus, claim 21 and dependent claims 22 and 23 are allowable.

New claim 24 contains features of original claim 21 and allowable claim 5. Thus, claim 24 and dependent claims 25 and 26 are allowable.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

It is noted that the Examiner states that claims 4-6, 8, 11, 16-19 and 23 contain allowable subject matter. In order to facilitate issuance of claims to allowable subject matter, Applicant(s) have amended claims accordingly. Therefore, all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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